

72. (Amended) An optical apparatus according to
claim 71, wherein the following condition is met:

$R_{y2}/R_{x2}=1.421, 1.921, 1.730, 1.732, 1.493, 1.921,$
1.802 or 1.820.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject
application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 77 are pending, with Claims 1, 9,
11, 15, 19, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 46, 51, 56, and 57 being
independent. Claims 1 through 4, 7, 8, 26, 46, 51, 68, and
72 have been amended.

COMMENTS REGARDING INTERVIEW

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for extending
the courtesy of granting and conducting on June 8, 1999, a
personal interview in the above-referenced application. At
the interview, Applicants' representative and the Examiner
discussed proposed amendments to Claims 1 through 4, 7, and
8, and the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and
102, which are respectfully traversed. It was agreed at the
interview that the proposed amendments to the claims would
obviate the rejections, and the claims have been so amended.
As also discussed at the interview, whereas U.S. Patent No.
5,701,202 (Takahashi '202) is listed on the Examiner
Interview Summary Record as "prior art", Applicants

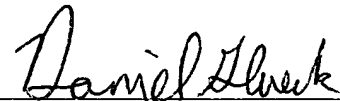
respectfully traverse the same and submit that Takahashi '202 does not constitute prior art under the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103.

CONCLUSION AND REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INTERVIEW

Applicants understand that it is intended that prosecution be suspended, and respectfully request an additional interview to discuss the proposed interference proceedings with Takahashi '202. Favorable consideration in this regard is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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